REMARKS

Claims 7-23 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-6 are withdrawn. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

The claims of Group II have been elected. In the Office Action, the Examiner identified the claims of Group II as claims 7-20; however, Applicant notes that Group II actually includes claims 7-23.

Claims 7, 8 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as assertedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0109509 A1 to Stonecypher, *et al.* (hereinafter "Stonecypher"). The Examiner has further indicated that claims 9-20, 22 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 7, 8 and 21.

Independent claims 7 and 21 require: "code words with a minimized number of occurrences of a given state." The Examiner cites the Stonecypher reference as teaching this feature. Applicant submits that the disclosure of Stonecypher does not teach this element, but, in fact, actually teaches against it. Stonecypher is directed to a system that improves digital signals in a multi-level signaling system by eliminating full-swing transitions between successive symbols. *See*, Abstract. Stonecypher analyzes the relationship between successive symbols to create two code words (MSB and LSB), wherein the code words are selected to minimize transitions between states - not to minimize the occurrence of a given state, as required by the pending claims. Stonecypher at [0057], and [0065]-[0069]. Referring to Stonecypher's Figure 16, thirty pairs of uncoded and corresponding encoded words are shown. Assuming Stonecypher was trying to minimize the occurrence of "zeros," for example, more than one-third of these

examples would not meet that requirement. Eleven of the thirty pairs have the same number or more zeros in the encoded word compared to the original uncoded words (see pairs 1-4 and 6-12). Also, Stonecypher is clearly not minimizing the occurrence of "ones" in this example, since the number of ones increases in all but two of the pairs (see pairs 11-12). Accordingly, Stonecypher fails to teach a system for minimizing the occurrence of a given state.

Claims 7 and 21 further require that "the transmission line is asymmetrically terminated." The Examiner has not specifically pointed to this feature in Stonecypher, and Applicant has been unable to find a disclosure that teaches this element. There is no suggestion that Stonecypher's signal carrying conductors (or transmission lines) 110 (Figures 3 and 4) are asymmetrically terminated or that they are normally pulled to a high or low state.

Claim 8 further requires that "the code word is one bit longer than the data word." The code words in the Stonecypher disclosure are at least two bits longer than the corresponding data words. See e.g., Figure 16. The data word is converted to two code words, MSB and LSB, that each have an extra bit attached to a portion of data from the data word. Stonecypher at [0057], [0065] and [0066]. Therefore, when the MSB and LSB code words are combined to represent a single encoded data word, the combined code word is two bits longer than the data word.

Claims 9-20 and 22-23 depend from claims 7 and 21, respectively, and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Michael Fogarty, Applicant's attorney, at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. No fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge, or credit any overpayment to, Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

/Michael J. Fogarty, III/
Michael J. Fogarty, III
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 42,541

SLATER & MATSIL, L.L.P.
17950 Preston Rd., Suite 1000
Dallas, Texas 75252
Tel.: 972-732-1001
Fax: 972-732-9218